

Appl. No. 09/919,748
Amdt. dated May 28, 2003
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited
Procedure Examining Group

PATENT

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously amended) A frame for a shelter structure, comprising:

a plurality of poles arranged in intersecting relationship with a plurality of pole crossings such that at least one four sided opening is formed having pole crossings defining two non-adjacent pairs of vertices and having sections of said poles defining sides thereof;

each of said poles having a first terminal end and a second terminal end;

each of said poles assuming a substantially arcuate shape under tension with said first and second terminal ends of each pole terminating in a common plane to thereby define an interior volume; and

a tension harness extending substantially diagonally across said opening and directly connecting a non-adjacent pair of vertices of said opening.

Claim 2 (original) A shelter structure comprising the frame of claim 1 and a membrane connected to at least some of said poles to substantially shelter said interior volume.

Claim 3 (original) The frame of claim 1 wherein said poles are arranged to form a plurality of said four-sided openings.

Claim 4 (previously amended) The frame of claim 1 wherein said poles are arranged to define an interior volume that is substantially dome shaped.

Claim 5 (currently amended) The frame of claim 1 ~~including a~~ wherein said tension harness ~~directly connecting~~ connects each pair of non-adjacent vertices.

Claim 6 (currently amended) The frame of claim 3 ~~including a~~ wherein said tension harness ~~extending extends~~ substantially diagonally across and directly ~~connecting~~ connects a non-adjacent pair of vertices of each of a plurality of said openings.

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Claim 7 (currently amended) The frame of claim 3 ~~including a~~ wherein said tension harness ~~extending extends~~ substantially diagonally across and directly ~~connecting connects~~ each pair of non-adjacent vertices of each of a plurality of said openings. 9

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Claim 8 (original) The frame of claim 1 wherein said poles are substantially flexible and resilient.

Claim 9 (original) The frame of claim 1 wherein at least some pairs of intersecting poles are connected together near at least some of said pole crossings.

Claim 10 (original) The frame of claim 1 wherein each pair of intersecting poles is connected together near each of the pole crossings.

Claim 11 (original) The frame of claim 1 wherein a plurality of four-sided openings are formed, at least some of which are adjacent each other.

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Claim 12 (currently amended) The frame of claim 11 ~~having a~~ wherein said tension harness ~~connected connects~~ between a non-adjacent pair of vertices of at least one pair of adjacent openings.

Claim 13 (currently amended) The frame of claim 11 ~~having a~~ wherein said tension harness ~~connected connects~~ between a non-adjacent pair of vertices of a plurality of pairs of adjacent openings.

Claim 14 (currently amended) The frame of claim 11 ~~having a~~ wherein said tension harness ~~connected connects~~ between a non-adjacent pair of vertices of all adjacent openings.

Claim 15 (previously amended) The frame of claim 11 having a tension harness connected between a non-adjacent pair of vertices of all diagonally adjacent openings.

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Claim 16 (currently amended) The frame of claim 1 having a free end of at least one said tension harness fastened to the common plane.

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B⁶ cont. Claim 17 (currently amended) The frame of claim 1 having the free ends of ~~each~~ said tension harness fastened to the common plane.

Claim 18 (original) The frame of claim 1 wherein said tension harness is constructed of low stretch material.

Claim 19 (original) The shelter structure of claim 2 wherein said tension harness is integrally formed with said membrane.

Claim 20 (original) The shelter structure of claim 2 wherein said tension harness is connected to said membrane at a plurality of points.
